Happy New Year!

Numismagram Newsletter #139 (I/2025)



The New Year's festivities have drawn to a close and vacations too are likely (sadly) coming to a close. It really does seem as though last year's beginning of the year newsletter was just being sent, but that is a reminder of how fleeting time can be. And, just like last year's initial upload, this upload features an item that touches upon the concept of time…



Part of the series from the British Art Medals Society, this medal from 1999, entitled *Nature and Time*, is from a limited output of just 42 pieces and displays a very stylized man and tree on the obverse, along with that same stylized man and a later, tree-less landscape upon the reverse. Highly tactile, it evokes the passage of time in a poignant and highly contemporary manner.

Also marking the passage time, this Swedish medal from 1879 presents imagery that, depending upon your location, may be a welcome sign that spring is returning (or a recent memory that winter was approaching)…



Emanating from the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences series, this type celebrates the life of Carl Jacob Sundevall, a professor of natural history at the Swedish Museum, and features a skein of geese in flight in their characteristic v-formation.

Revisiting the holidays one final time, a game that has become a favorite of ours—*and one which now has numerous expansions to customize even further*—is Exploding Kittens…


DEFUSE
VIA SPAY/NEUTER.
INSTEAD OF EXPLODING, SECRETLY PUT AN EXPLODING KITTEN BACK INTO THE DRAW PILE.
EXPLODING KITTEN
SHOW THIS CARD IMMEDIATELY.
CATOMIC BOMB
THIS IS A CAUSE FUR ALARM.
REMOVE THE EXPLODING KITTENS FROM THE DECK. SHUFFLE THE DECK. PUT ALL THE KITTENS FACE DOWN ON TOP. YOUR TURN ENDS AFTER PLAYING THIS CARD.
MARK
WHAT WAS YOURS IS NOW MINE.
CHOOSE A PLAYER AND RANDOMLY PICK ONE OF THEIR CARDS. THEY MUST KEEP THAT CARD FACING OUTWARD IN THEIR HAND UNTIL IT IS PLAYED OR STOLEN.

A quick-paced game that focuses upon hand and deck manipulation in order to set up your opponents and be the last person standing, it features some light-hearted kitties acting very badly. And, speaking of kitties acting very badly, there is this contemporary Dutch medal from 1984 entitled “Willy the Naughty Cat…”



Some other highlights in this upload include…



SWITZERLAND. Bern. Silver Academic Prize Medal or "Gärtnerpfennig". Issued circa 1824/5 for outstanding pupils in the canton. **NGC MS-65**.



GERMANY. Confirmation silver Medal. Issued circa 1850. **PCGS SP-64**.


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ITALY. Papal States. Pope Pius IX/Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls bronze Medal. Issued 1854.



HUNGARY. Outbreak of World War I cast bronze Medal. Issued 1914.



UNITED STATES & SPAIN. Carlos III/American Bankers' Association bronze Medal. Issued 1966 for the 13th annual meeting in Madrid.

We have also added some new items to our ‘on sale’ section of our site, which can be viewed **here**. These include items now on discount as well as others that had previously been on discount, but are now slashed even further. If you have never checked this link, or have not done so in some time, it is worth reviewing, as an item which you may have been considering in the past may now be at a more favorable price.

As always, for all of this upload’s new items, please click **here** or on the banner art at the top of the page. Lastly, we will be back again at the middle of the month on January 15th for another great mix of art and historical medals.

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